from the grounded ship is environmentally approved by Government;

(b) whether Government areaware of any side ef[illegible] onsequently on human live

(c) if so, what remedial steps are being taken to defuse hazard to environment; and

(d) whether these dispersant agents were chemically tested and approved Ior such use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) 1040 tonnes of crude oil from the grounded ship off Goa was pumped out from the ship to road tankers without any spillage taking place. Very minor quantities of oil remaining in some inaccessible corners of the tanks and pipelines on the ship were dispersed by usin" chemical dispersants approved by National Institute of Oceanography (NIO). Goa.

(b) There are no side effects/toxic effects on marrne life from the dispersant used which has been tested to be non toxic.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The dispersant namea "Atlas OSD" in question is indigenously manu facturcu and has been tested and approv ed by N.I.O. for use.

Allotment of waste and Forest lands

2060. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: WiH the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND F^ESTS be oleased to gtate.

(a) whether Government are considering to give waste and forest lands to private companies;

(bi if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government p[r]opo«» T-allot such land to the bnd'e-s .arg'nal small' and medium farmers o* wel! as educated unemployed and to the persons belonging to weaker sections of tbe gociety;

(d) if so, how much of such land was allotted to these people in thr country, State-wise, particularly in the State of Gujarat during the last three years; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) There is nq such proposal under consideration of the Government for giving waste and degraded forests lands to private companies/parties. However, in view of the increasing threat of encioacii-ment npon the large quantum tif degraded forest land in the country, and the need to afforest it urgently so as to expand green cover, inhibit encroach-ment and halt soil denudation, and also to meet rural fuel and fodder needs and thereby to reduce pressure on existing natural terests and protected press, th? Govenment is considering to involve industry in afforestat[i]on of severely degraded areas in partnership with State Forest Development Corporations so as to augment the efforts and the financial resources available for affoie&tatien schemes of the Central and S'atc Governments, NGOs and people's cooperatives.

(c) to (e) In accordance with the National Forest Policy and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, diversion of forest, land for nonforestry purposes is allowed subject to raising of compensatory afforestation at the project cost only if such diversion is for area specific projects, no alternate non forests site is available and economic and social benefits far outweigh the likely adverse impact of such diversion on environment. However, local villagers are being associated for afforestation and regeneration of degraded forests in accordance with detailed guid;l[i]nes issued in th's regard r>n 1.6.1990, as part of the Johl Forest Management effort.